

GERMANS CLAIM ANOTHER FORT NEAR VERDUN

FINAL
EDITION

The

Evening

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VILLA ARMY KILLS 16 AMERICANS IN RAID ON UNITED STATES TOWN

DE VAUX FORTRESS STORMED IN NIGHT BY KAISER'S MEN; DRIVEN OUT, PARIS ASSERTS

German Right Wing Reported Repulsed in Drive on the West of the Meuse—Paris Says Line at de Vaux Still Holds.

BERLIN, March 9.—Fort de Vaux, defending Verdun from the east, the village of the same name, have been captured by the Germans, it was announced this afternoon. Adjoining fortified positions were also taken by the German troops, it was stated.

The assault was made at night by Posen reserve regiments.

Three French aeroplanes have been shot down in combats around Verdun, the War Office also reported. German fliers bombarded villages west and south of Verdun.

French losses in the Verdun fighting now total between 70,000 and 80,000. Major Morant, noted Berlin military critic, estimated to-day. He says 20,000 French soldiers have been taken prisoners.

The text of today's statement by Army Headquarters is as follows:

"The French recaptured the western part of a trench near the farm of Malmaison de Champagne, where hand-to-hand fighting occurred yesterday.

"West of the Meuse we were occupied in clearing out the rest of the French troops remaining in the woods of Corbion."

"To the east of the river, to shorten the connections between our positions to the south of Beaumont and our lines in the Woëvre district, the village and adjacent fort of Vaux with numerous adjoining fortified positions were captured in a glorious night attack, after thorough artillery preparation, by the Posen Reserve Regiments numbers six and nineteen, under the leadership of the commander of the Ninth Reserve Division of Infantry, Gen. von Gursky-Cornitz."

"In a series of aerial engagements in the neighborhood of Verdun our aviators were victors. It is certain that three enemy aeroplanes were shot down. All our aeroplanes returned safely. Several of their brave pilots were wounded. Enemy troops in villages west and south of Verdun were heavily bombarded.

"By the attack of a French aeroplane squadron within the radius of the fortress of Metz two civilians were killed and several houses damaged. In an aerial battle the machine of the commander of the squadron

ROOSEVELT SEES NO HOPE FOR THE FUTURE IN WILSON

Talks of "Hand-to-Mouth" Measures Taken in Fear of Votes.

Col. Theodore Roosevelt, who is now at Trinidad, British West Indies, gave out to-day through R. L. Stoddard of the New York Evening Mail, who is with him on the trip, the following statement:

"I am deeply sensible of the honor conferred on me and of the good will shown me by the gentlemen who have announced themselves as delegates to be elected in my interest in the Massachusetts Presidential primary. Nevertheless, I must request, and I now do request and insist, that my name be not brought into the Massachusetts primaries, and I emphatically decline to be a candidate in the primaries of that or of any other State."

"Months ago I formally notified the authorities of Nebraska, Minnesota and Michigan to this effect. I do not wish the nomination. I am not the least interested in the political fortunes either of myself or any other man."

"I am interested in awakening my fellow countrymen to the need of facing unpleasant facts. I am interested in the triumph of the great principles for which, with all my heart and soul, I have striven and shall continue to strive. I will not enter into any fight for the nomination and I will not permit any national fight to be made in my behalf."

"Indeed, I will go further and say that it would be a mistake to nominate me unless the country has in its mood something of the heroic, unless it feels not only like devoting itself to ideals, but to the purpose measurably to realize those ideals in action."

"This is one of those rare times which come only at long intervals in a nation's history, when the action

Colonel of Force at Columbus, N. M.; Villa's Lieutenant Who Was Slain



GERMANY DECLARES WAR ON PORTUGAL

Seizure of German Merchantmen Brings Fourteenth Nation Actively into European Conflict.

BERLIN, March 9.—Germany declared war on Portugal to-day.

The German Minister at Lisbon to-day notified the Portuguese Government of the declaration, handing the official document to the Foreign Minister.

"This makes the fourteenth nation now involved in the great struggle in Europe."

The declaration of war is according to an authorized statement from the Foreign Office this afternoon, was made necessary by "a series of seizures of German ships in Portuguese ports, which was the gravest breach of neutrality and of special treaties."

It is believed here that Austria will take similar action. Austrian ships having been seized by the Portuguese naval authorities in many quarters it has been anticipated another result will be Spain's entrance into the war on the side of Germany.

The rupture between Germany and

Portugal was brought about by the act of Portugal in requisitioning German merchantmen which had been interned in her ports. Following the seizure of these vessels, Germany addressed an ultimatum to Portugal demanding return of the ships.

There have been frequent reports Portugal was about to declare war on Germany because of her treaty relations with Great Britain, which bind Portugal to place 10,000 troops at the disposal of Great Britain when required.

The peace establishment of Portugal's active army is about 30,000. As available, including active army, reserves and territorials, are estimated at from 30,000 to 40,000. The army consists of one old battalions, five provincial regiments and about thirty smaller corps.

LINER ESPAGNE IN PORT.

French Steamship Makes Safe Voyage From New York to Bordeaux.

BOULOGNE, March 9.—The French liner Espagne from New York, entered the mouth of the French harbor, owing to the fact she will probably not land her passengers before evening.

England to Make New Call on Married Men.

LONDON, March 9.—The newspaper, according to this morning's press, has announced that the proposal to tax the married men will be taken to the House of Commons on the 14th inst.

U. S. CAVALRY ROUTS MEXICANS IN NIGHT ATTACK ON COLUMBUS

Two Women Shot Dead by Snipers as They Ran From Burning Buildings—Report Says From 50 to 100 of Invaders Are Slain by Soldiers While in Flight.

COLUMBUS, N. Mex., March 9.—Francisco Villa, the Mexican bandit, with all the officers who remained loyal to him and a command of fully 500 men invaded the United States at this point, seventy-three miles west of El Paso at 4:30 o'clock this morning, attacked the sleeping town, killed nine civilians, including two women and seven soldiers of the Thirteenth Cavalry, set fire to several buildings, attempted to rob the



bank and fired thousands of bullets through the walls and windows of dwellings and hotels.

Villa attacked the town in force with the full determination of killing everybody in the place and wiping Columbus off the map. In a speech to his men just before ordering them to the attack he said he intended to make a torch out of every man, woman and child in the town.

Although outnumbered and taken completely by surprise, two troops of the Thirteenth Cavalry, in camp on the edge of the town, sailed into the Mexicans and drove them off with great slaughter. The bodies of twenty-four Mexicans were gathered up in and around Columbus and burned before noon. Other bodies are being brought in. It is reported that more than fifty and possibly one hundred of the bandits were slain among infuriated cavalrymen and the citizens who joined in the pursuit.

The two troops stationed here and three other troops from Gibson's Ranch, fifteen miles west, have gone into Mexico under command of Major Tompkins and Major Lindsay. A squad of cavalry is on the way here from Fort Bliss.

Villa is believed to have fled long before his men broke ground before the attacks of our troops and is probably heading toward his retreat in Chihuahua.

ONE OF VILLA'S CHIEF AIDES SLAIN.

No orders have been given to the cavalrymen about coming back. They are far into Mexico now and nobody can tell when they will stop. Among the invaders killed was Col. Pablo Lopez, chief lieutenant

Villa Threatened to Burn Women and Children to Force President Wilson to Intervene in Mexico—Troops Pursue Invaders Across the Border.

of Villa, and his body surmounted the pile of corpses which was burned on the prairie just outside the town to-day.

A number of Mexican prisoners were taken. They were all wounded and unable to get away. The Mexicans say that it was Villa's design to attack the town and wipe out the soldiers as they charged to the rescue. He posted snipers to pick off the cavalrymen, but the soldiers came too fast and the snipers were surprised and fired at random.

Evidently a sniper had been stationed outside the quarters of Col. Herbert J. Stocum, the commander of the Thirteenth, as a shot was fired at him as he ran out the door and a bullet knocked his pistol from his hand.

But for the quick turn out and savage attack of the United States cavalrymen and the aid rendered by a few brave citizens who picked off the Mexicans with rifles and revolvers from the windows and doors of their homes Villa's force would probably have seized the town and accomplished a wholesale massacre. He had the advantage of darkness and a complete surprise as there were no guards.

The troops started in pursuit of the Mexicans, vowing that they would bring Villa back, dead or alive. Villa's invasion was undoubtedly prompted by a desire to force the United States to intervene in Mexico. The situation is complicated by the assertion of soldiers and civilians that Carranza soldiers took part in the attack on the town. It is probable that the Carranza guard at the border was overpowered by the big Villa force and compelled to join the expedition. Valuable information about the raid was given to Col. Herbert J. Stocum, in charge of the military forces here, by a Mexican ranchman who was a prisoner of the Villa invaders and escaped during the battle.

The Mexican told Col. Stocum that Villa left the Bosques Grandes ranch Tuesday, made a leisurely journey north, and about four yesterday afternoon left a point on the Boca Grande and started for the border.

"Travelling north, they crossed the boundary west of Columbus," said the Mexican, "and entered town by a ditch running past the cavalry camp. Villa was in personal charge and declared he was going to kill every American because the American Government did not treat him right. Villa declared Carranza could not bring peace in Mexico. With Villa were Pablo Lopez, Martin Lopez, Col. Candelario Sevantes, Col. Juan Chavez, Gen. Jose Fernandez and Gen. Beltran."

VILLA PLANS TO FORCE INTERVENTION.

The Mexican, who urged that his name be not used, confirmed a report previously given out by Carranza officials that before leaving the Santa Ana district, in Western Chihuahua, Villa had freely stated that he intended to force intervention by the United States by raiding American territory and killing civilians and soldiers.

Lieut. Glyce Ely, with twenty men of the New Mexican National Guard, arrived from Deming to-day and joined the Federal troops.

The civilian dead: A. L. Ritchie, hotel proprietor; Walton Walker, United States Customs riders; Milton James, Mrs. Milton James, wife of the tender of the railroad pump house; J. S. Dean, C. C. Miller, druggist, unidentified chauffeur, and J. J. Moore, merchant.

Ely, Mexican who told Col. Stocum about Villa's movements claimed that his raiding party was made up of 800 or more men and a machine gun platoon, but this is doubted. If Villa had a machine gun he did not use it. However, there is no disposition to doubt the Mexican's statement that Villa has 1,000 men at his disposal and can bring an army of that size over the border any time he pleases if he escapes this time.

Troop G, stationed at the border gate south of here, caught the retreating Mexicans on the flank and killed eighteen. Corporal Wiswall of the same troop was shot through the right eye and killed.

Lieut. Beson of Troop G was wounded in the left arm.

A number of the Mexican wounded were taken to the Post Hospital. Col. Stocum's revolver was shot out of his hand as he emerged from

RECORD OF THE WAR'S GREATEST BATTLE IN STRUGGLE FOR VERDUN.

The German Crown Prince launched the attempt to capture Verdun eighteen days ago. What followed has proved to be the greatest battle of the war.

German troops have captured two Verdun forts, 125 square miles of French territory, more than twenty villages and 20,000 prisoners.

The German front has advanced from nine or ten miles to within five and six miles of Verdun.

German losses are estimated by the French at more than 125,000.

French losses are estimated by the Germans at more than 75,000.

More shells have been fired than in any previous battle in the war.

(Continued on Fourth Page)